

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Status of the Claims

Prior to the entry of this Response to the Restriction Requirement, claims 121-128 were pending. In this Response, Applicants wish to make the following three changes to the currently pending claim set. First, Applicants wish to prosecute previously presented claims 7, 10-13, 32-34, 48-54 and 88-101. These claims were cancelled in the Preliminary Amendment filed on January 9, 2002. Second, Applicants wish to insert new claims 129-173. Third, Applicants wish to cancel claims 121-128. If these wishes are granted, then the currently pending claim list would include claims 7, 10-13, 32-34, 48-54, 88-101, and 129-173. Applicants respectfully request the granting of these three wishes.

Support for the Claims

Support for these claims is found in the previously filed specification and claim set.

Claims 7, 10-13, 32-34, 48-54 and 88-101 constitute part of the original claim set filed on January 9, 2002. Therefore, these claims are supported by the original disclosure.

Claim 32 is amended in order to replace the term 'organothiols' with 'organosulfur'. Support for the amendment are found on page 33, lines 19-29.

Claim 48 is amended in order to provide an antecedent basis for the 'R' groups recited in claim 49. Support for the amendment is found from page 35, line 22 to page 36, line 14.

Claim 97 is amended in order to provide an antecedent basis for the 'spectroscopic techniques' recited in claim 100. Support for the amendment is found on page 61, lines 5-10.

Support for new claims 129-133 is provided in originally filed claim 7, as well as from page 41, line 4 to page 47, line 10.

Support for new claims 134-143 is provided in originally filed claim 78, as well as from page 41, line 4 to page 47, line 10.

Support for new claims 144-149 is provided in originally filed claims 7 and 78, as well as from page 41, line 4 to page 47, line 10.

Support for new claims 150-155 is provided by originally filed claim 1, as well as from page 39, line 1 to page 40, line 15.

Support for new claim 156 is provided on page 53 from lines 6-11.

Support for new claim 157-160 is provided on page 45, lines 1-8, page 53, lines 12-22, and Example 4.

Support for new claims 161-162 is provided in Example 4 as well as from pages 49-50.

Support for new claims 163-166 is provided in Example 3 as well as from pages 49-50.

Support for new claims 167-170 is provided in Example 2 as well as from pages 49-50.

Support for new claims 171-173 is provided in original claim 1 and in Examples 2, 3 and 4.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-442-1000.

Respectfully submitted,



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